



Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

NEXT MEETING

Monday, April 24

"The Green Scene"

8pm

St. Paul's Parish House
2430 K St. , NW

TWO NEW ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS TO BE APPOINTED

The Commissioners from Single Member Districts 02 (Diane Schilke) and 06 (Jim Slicer) have resigned.

If you would like to be more involved in citizen activism, have some time to commit to bettering our neighborhood, and are registered to vote

within the boundaries of either vacant district (Shown below) you may be eligible for appointment for the balance of the term.

Under D.C. law, in a Single Member District where the elected Commissioner has resigned, a registered voter can

be appointed to office by the ANC.

For more information, please call Steve Levy, ANC Chairman, on FE3-7635 or leave a message at the ANC office on 965-2600.

Your Advisory Neighborhood Commission of Foggy Bottom and West End needs you.

The Movers and Shakers— and Makers of St. Mary's Court

FOGGY BOTTOM FARMER



Washington wears a coat of many colors well. Most cities do not have such floral color, and so easily achieves—continuous from spring until near winter: magnolia, azalea, flowering dogwood, Chinese scholar tree, crepe myrtle, Washington thorn and roses, roses, roses. Much sunlight and humidity have made it so.

Only the azalea requires a little more than ordinary care, but the little care gives great reward—a massed intensity of color that causes the individual blossoms to merge into a glowing form. The little care requires more thought and planning than actual effort: full sun and an acid soil rich in organic matter. Aluminum sulphate will provide the initial acidity and a four inch mulch of pine needles will sustain it. Compost, leaf-mold or well-rotted manure can provide sufficient organic matter when mixed with an equal part of soil. During the

first two years water well during summer droughts; thereafter no special watering is required.

The chief problem of a balcony tree is its weight, but equal parts of perlite, peatmoss and sandy loam can reduce it. If the tub that contains it is placed on a platform with casters, moving problems are much simplified as is cleaning the balcony. Our tree is a Golden weeping willow whose graceful branches tell us the direction of the lightest breeze.

William S. Lattin

WASHINGTON'S COAT OF MANY COLORS (Early Spring to near Winter)

- 1) Saucer magnolia (April), 2) Star Magnolia (April earlier), 3) Flowering dogwood (April, May), 4) Azalea (April, May), 5) Evergreen magnolia (June), 6) Chinese scholar tree (July-Sept), 7) Crepe myrtle (All summer), 8) Washington thorn (red fruit, fall and winter).

James E. "JIM" Hammond, Construction Management Associate and Project Superintendent, and James G. Davis Construction Corporation, General Contractors, are the team who are actually bringing St. Mary's Court to life. At the time you read this article the frame of the 4th floor of the nine story building will be up. With good weather coming along a new floor should take form about every two weeks.

The extremely lousy weather we had this past winter slowed this project some but it hasn't effected the interest and fervor of this team. You can sense when you talk with Jim Hammond that he feels as much responsibility for St. Mary's Court as does Father Wilbur and Joe Howell. You rarely find this interest and cooperative spirit in business today so it is a pleasure

to see it exhibited on a project which will be of such importance to our neighborhood.

I've read background information on both the Davis Corporation and on Jim Hammond and they both read like story books—the accomplishments are outstanding and apparently their efficiency of operation, honesty and interest have always been a trade mark. I'd like to have my walls plastered with some of the commendation letters I read.

Jim's 54 years young, married, black, born in Cheraw, South Carolina, associated with several civic organizations; both formal and self education have been directed toward his present career. When he was taking math, construction surveying, carpentry, materials testing, etc. I'll bet he knew exactly what he wanted to be doing today. He's

been a bricklayer, carpenter, cement finisher, roofing mechanic, worked with all aspects of excavation, a Trades Teacher, a Dean of Men at Coulter Jr. College, a general maintenance and repair man, supervised construction of storm sewers, bridges, sidewalks, worked on individual homes and large apartment buildings and shopping centers, and owned an interest in a construction firm.

In 20 years in the Army Jim served in this Country and the Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of Korea—all the time doing what he was excellent at—planning, supervising, training and "doing" construction work. He retired from the service as a First Sergeant with commendations.

He has worked as Construction Engineer, General Superintendent, Project Superintendent, Quality Control Supervisor of many major construction jobs in our metropolitan area of Maryland and the District. In other words, Jim knows every aspect of a construction job; he knows how to keep one going and how to get the best out of all company employees and subcontractors. We're lucky he was picked for our St. Mary's job—our elderly deserve the very best we can give them—starting with a well constructed home.

As you walk around 24th and H to see how the "Court" is coming along, if you see a lean 6 footer hurring from here to there—or in the center of a cluster of rapidly talking men—you will know that it is Jim Hammond "hustling his job along".

The story of the James G. Davis Construction Corporation is a story in itself. E.G.: Jim Davis, President received the "Contractor of the Year Award" in 1975, given by the D.C. Metropolitan Subcontractors Association. As St. Mary's Court moves along during the year we will tell you something about this interesting and highly esteemed company.

Mary E. Healy,
Executive Board Member, FBA

NEW ANC COMMITTEES

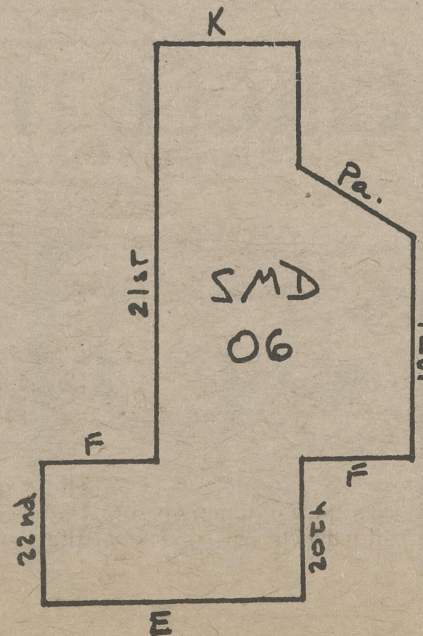
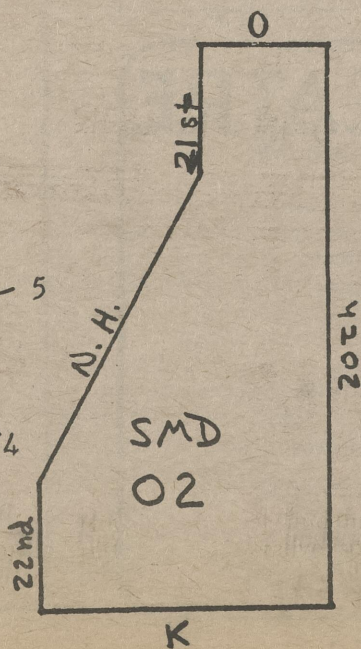
The Foggy Bottom and West End ANC has established committees on:

- Neighborhood Planning
- Transportation
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Locations for Community Bulletin Boards

If you would like to help to

improve our neighborhood, an excellent way would be to serve on one of these committees. We would like to have your help for as much or as little of your time as you can commit. For more information, please call Steve Levy on FE-3-7635 or Karen Gordon on 965-2600.

Your ANC needs you!



seen a r o u n d the Bottom



by Mary E. Healy

SPRING—In Washington it is so lovely; and in Foggy Bottom we contribute our share to the city's beauty. As I write this the hills along Rock Creek Parkway are literally covered with Jonquils and narcissus, our area tulip trees are blooming, the cherry trees are in leaf and bud, and the forsythia is bursting with spring's beautiful yellow. The crocuses and hyacinths are pushing greenery out of the way and while not many tulips are in bloom some are (quite a few at the AAUW and at St. Mary's Church). Hedge, shrubbery and quite a few trees appear to have suffered from the hard winter, as well as some lawns. Hopefully, they will perk up with warmer weather and proper feeding.

Our FB area has a great many of the lovely pink and some white tulips trees. Seems like we never get to enjoy their full beauty though; they no more than come out when either one of our big Bottom Blows, or a cold snap, comes along and—Kaplooeey, they're gone!! Maybe our FB Farmer could figure out how to delay their blooming until late April. What do you say, Bill Lattin, want to try?

Spring again; it must be here. I saw our DC Maintenance employees washing the windows on the bus stop shelters! And none too soon; they really needed it. And those wonderful NPS people have started to clean up, spruce up, trim, etc. all the many little park areas in our neighborhood. Thank you Bob Sulcer; your people do a good job. Wish you would take back all the little parks you transferred to the District a few years back. They have really suffered from lack of attention, and they don't do credit to your adjacent parks. How about it? I'm sure DC would cooperate. The DC management employees try; it's the system that's lousy.

And more spring—really spring stuff—LOVE. The lovely Karan Jones of the Montage in the Les Champs is now Karan Chriss and she is so happy; her face just beams. Incidentally, the Montage has just oodles of beautiful new things in from the Atlantic City Gift Show. Go see. It is a real pleasure to visit the Montage (even if you don't buy every-time). It is so fresh and cheerful and those gals are really sincere in "being glad to see you".

Coming of age this April is the Intrigue Restaurant; they celebrated their 4th anniversary in our area on April 7. Pete Laricos, owner-manager, has asked me to thank our FB residents for their kindness in supporting his restaurant. Even though the Intrigue is heavily patronized by the Kennedy Center casts, foreign dignitaries, congressional leaders and visitors to the City, Pete says without the steady repetitive patronage of the Bottom residents they could never make it. We thank you Pete for providing us with another fine restaurant in our area—the food and service are both excellent, and the warm friendliness of you and your wife Barbara make you both Foggy Bottomites—that's what we are all about.

Speaking of our friends and restaurants, our good friend Seymour Rich of the Golden Table is on the mend. He is up and about after his open heart surgery; he's still confined to his home area but is really doing quite well. Ron is panting a little without his dad's help, but he is young, he will survive.

All topped out—so many new big buildings are going up, and so much private rehabilitation is going on, between the river and 20th street and M and E Streets that I can't keep up with them. The Potomac Overlook at 26th and K almost looks like it will be ready for a tour soon, the Pa. Ave. Guest Quarters will open on a partial basis in July with a total grand opening in September. John Vernon is riding herd on both 2500 Pa. and 801 NH. Sorry to say that we've lost our lovely Jan Fisher from 801 to a Houston GQ and Jim Smith soon will follow. That vivacious Claudia is still with us and Mary Fischer (no relation to Jan) took Jan's place. We told you: GW is a young hustling organization; they are really moving. They give good service. We wish them success throughout the country—but remember, fellas, no more in Foggy Bottom—two is enough; eight we don't want.

The George Washington Circle renovations are really moving; they will make such a difference in our area. Maybe after they are all finished their residents can help me exert our influence to get the median strip parks on the east and west side of the Circle rehabilitated, rejuvenated—or someting—they sure are a mess now. I'm working on them but it is discouraging. Incidentally, we've had quite a few recommendations for the Library to trim their hedge down some (for security purposes for persons using the Library at night) and so that their lovely trees will show off better. I spoke to them and they will see what they can do.

Our March FB Meeting featured a DON'T TEAR IT DOWN Presentation. It was most interesting and it succeeded in raising, in my mind at least, questions regarding how many historical or architecture fine buildings worthy of saving that we still have left in the Bottom. Maybe we should try to do something about them. Can you identify any and what do you think of the idea of forming a special group to protect our last holdings. The DON'T TEAR IT DOWN people will give us a hand with how to go about it. Drop me a note if you have any ideas (2475 Va. Ave.)

Howard Feldman (922-24th) has been trying to find out the sentiments of FB residents toward having another major chain food store in the area. From the lists I've seen there is much interest. Howard would appreciate your ideas (Tel. 337-0206—home).

The letter from Bob Charles our FB President, with the support of our ANC reps, to the new Chief of Police got some action on our Residential Parking Program. As most of you know who have been trying to find parking places anywhere within a one mile radius of your home, there just weren't any. Well, things should be different soon. Bob's

letter brought results—pink parking tickets and yellow boots are flooding the area! Our area had become the "dumping grounds" for all parking violators who were being run out of areas adjacent to FB. Seems a shame that the Va. and Md. drivers can't find a fringe parking lot in their own back yard; then we could handle our own DC violators with much more ease and efficiency.

Have any of you noticed what Pat Patterson is doing to his house at 2429 Eye (the olive green Victorian one on the north side of Eye); it was built in 1865, Pat thinks. Take a look. Pat is completely gutting and remodeling it. The only thing left will be the front and side walls. Hopefully it will be finished by September. Pat has lived in the Bottom 28 years, 18½ in the house he is rehabilitating now. Seems as if he bought 2429 after it had been completely renovated by its previous owner. When I asked Pat why it had to be done again he said Metro literally shook it to pieces, making it necessary to start all over. Pat's using Kennard and Kennard as his architectural contractor and he seems quite pleased with them. If you're interested in remodeling give Pat a call. I'm sure he wouldn't mind talking to you. As he says he is a "devout Bottom person"—would not live anywhere else. Thank you, Pat, for putting your money in the right place; I know your home will be lovely and all of us in the Bottom will be better off for your interest, efforts and expenditure.

Have you ever wondered about the two GWU buildings with the old fashioned cupolas on top—Stockton Hall at 20th and H and Corcoran Hall at 21st and H? Well, I did and called my friend Bob Dickman of GW (also a FB member). Bob referred me to the GW Historian, Elmer Kayser, a most knowledgeable, friendly and cooperative reference. He tells me the buildings are "formal reproductions" of two old buildings on the original College Hill Campus (No. of Fla. Ave., South of Columbia Rd., east of 15th St. and West of 14 St—just about at what is now 14th & Euclid Sts. What a view toward down town that campus would have had were it still located there!) Corcoran was built in 1924 with Stockton following in 1925. The cupolas, which really were my interest, I was told are very characteristic forms of finials for buildings—purely decorative—nothing else. I had thought maybe they served a purpose—like the old widow's walks. If you want to know anything about GW buildings call Mr. Kayser on 676-6535; he will have the answer.

They say Beauty is in the Eyes of the Beholder—well this beholder was aghast today when I walked by 23rd and Va. Ave. (no. side) and saw the large green plastic hot house garden cover (about 10' x 15' standing about 12' up from the sidewalk.) The renovation on that corner turned out so nicely and then to have it ruined by an ugly appendage really shook me. Va. Ave. is

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Apr 30-May 1	Carefree A Damsel in Distress
May 2-3	The Story of Vernon & Irene Castle The Sky's the Limit

Foggy Bottom News

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

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All announcements, letters, articles, etc., welcome but must be typed. Send to:

FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

c/o West End Library
24th and L Sts., NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

Next Edition's Deadline Monday May 1

The opinions expressed in this publications are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

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really a nice street and so many fine things have been built on it that is a shame to have, in my opinion, an eyesore suddenly pop up. Let's hope it is only temporary.

Did you know that Marian Rice Hart of the PP, who first soloed in an airplane at the age of 74, won the Harmon Trophy in 1976 as the Outstanding Woman Aviator in America—and that she is still flying at the age of 87!

From April 19 thru April 28 and from May 3 through May 12 you will be able to view a Master of Fine Arts Thesis Show—works by students who are candidates for their Masters—at GW. Call Jane Lingo (676-6460) she can give you details on place and times.

How many of you are up at 5:30 or 6AM? If you are and live close to H, G or Va. Ave. you must be envying the pep, vim and vigor of the College track team, scullers, etc.—and those who

are just running to wake up for the day. The costumes are really something to behold. If you wonder if they are by design or like Topsy "just grew." One of those joggers got our nice "Tulips Sleeping" sign on the Juarez Park at Va. and NH Ave. If I could have just reached out my window and grabbed him by the seat of his baggy pants, he wouldn't have run much farther that day; but alas my arm wasn't that long.

The Park by the Civil Service Commission and the grounds of the Red Cross Bldg. are so nice. It is such a shame that the park in between where the street people gather is such a filthy mess. Hopefully, we can get the city to clean it up.

Heh, have you seen our tree in the pie shaped plot at NH and Eye? After more than a year of trying we finally got a tree there—not the kind of tree we wanted—but a tree nevertheless.

Good News—Columbia Plaza Pharmacy is again filling MEDICAID prescriptions and medical supplies under the District's Medicaid Program. Also they will continue distributing, through April, the CR (Cancer) Test Kits. April is Cancer Crusade Month so get your test kit—it could save your life.

Did you see the feature article in the Post on 3/25 re DC Median House Prices soaring over a 2 year period (75-77)? Foggy Bottom was right in there with a 53.6 compounded increase in price from 75 to 77 and a 1977 median price for a house ragged at \$106,000. Hang in there house owners; make us the most sought after area in town.

Friends of Dan Friedman, Deputy Solicitor General and former resident of the PP, will be pleased to know that Dan has been nominated by President Carter to be Chief Judge of the Court of Claims.

I've been snowed under this year but during July and August I may be able to take on an area improvement project which I feel would make many of us happy. I'd need your support though—even if it is only encouraging moral support. For years we've been talking about trying to get Howard Johnson's on Va. Ave. to paint out the Orange Roof at their motor entrance so that it would not be such a "harsh-punch-in-the-nose" for our residents to look at day in, day out. Want to support me; let me know (call 337-3076 or preferably write 2475 Va.)

ALERT ALERT—for anyone trying to go from Pa. Ave. at approximately 28th to Georgetown—the short bridge over the parkway has reached the stage where major repairs are needed—like right now. So the bridge is being closed and traffic is being rerouted. Forewarned is forearmed. Go to or come from Georgetown some other way.

And a closing note to you Bob Slusser: Your 16 sided Round Appearing building, formerly at 20th and C Sts. and called a Cyclorama was built in the 1890s. It served as an Amusement Hall way back then and in the 1940s the Military used it as a Motor Pool. After World War II it was used by the Executive Branch for parking White House cars. Some sort of parking went on there up to 1955 but after that info on the building disappeared—guess the building did too. We have the National Archives, Library of Congress, National Academy of Sciences, the Redevelopment Land Agency, many native Washingtonians, some military people and White House Staff, and above all the DC Department of Transportation—to thank for tracking down this information. While digging up this info was a bit of a chore; oddly enough everyone (including me) was really interested in running it down—seems as if everyone had forgotten about that odd shaped little building that started out so nobly in the last century and then just seemed to vanish.

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Letter to the Editor

March 3, 1978

Letter to the Editor
Foggy Bottom News

I would like to respond to the Letter to the Editor written by Carolyn Casper in the last Foggy Bottom News.

Ms. Casper doesn't know, evidently, that Snow's Court was not the first nor the only restoration in the area in the 1950's. I moved to Hughes Mews (formally Hughes Court) in 1955. 911, 915, 917 and 921 Hughes Mews were restored by the then Wiland Corporation, which consisted of Rhea Radin, Glenn Richardson and Dr. Wilson.

It's true that you nor any cab driver ever heard of us then and even now, 23 years later!

Just thought I'd let Foggy Bottom know we're here too.

Sincerely,
BENITA V. BELDMEN
921 Hughes Mews, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037



MUSIC NEWS

A choral and instrumental concert will be given at Western Presbyterian Church, 1906 H Street, N.W., on Sunday, April 23 at 4 p.m. In addition to several instrumental numbers, the Inter-American Chamber Singers will present a miscellany of Music of the Americas. The concert will be concluded with a performance of the "Coronation Mass" by Mozart, sung by the Western Presbyterian Church Choir and the George Washington University Chorus, assisted by Yvonne Easter, Soprano, Ellen Lang, Contralto, James Meeks, Tenor and Robert Ellis, Bass. The public is cordially invited. Adequate free parking will be available.

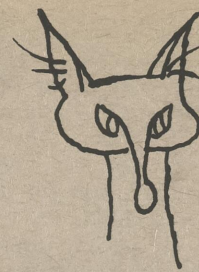
Exhibition Listing

APRIL-JULY

The The Octagon: 1799 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006

Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat. & Sun., 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

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ARCHITECT & ARTIST A Retrospective of His Works April 1, 1978-June 15, 1978 Retrospective exhibition of the architectural renderings, paintings and nautical drawings by the architect and artist Harold Sterner (1895-1976).



THE URBAN SCENE

Although the Bald Eagle is the national bird, in Washington, it appears to be the Building Crane, a very voracious bird.

At the same time the tax assessing Potomac River Mud Hen is cackling up a storm along Rock Creek and the Potomac contiguous to Georgetown and Foggy Bottom. At present the cackling is loudest at the bumper crop of tax dollars along the waterfront in Georgetown. However, the Potomac River Mud Hen was recently seen

listening to two lady row-house owners talking near 25th and Eye Streets. The first: "All of this building and converting to apartment hotels is the last straw." The second: "I agree; It's a sellers market and time to unload."

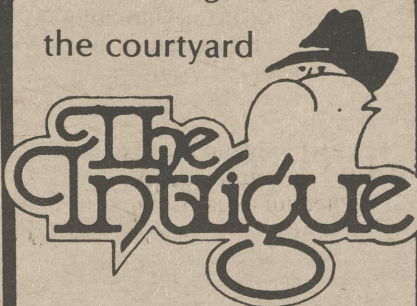
The view from the top of the Washington Monument is most revealing. The habitat of the Washington Building Crane is almost exclusively N.W. Washington with its greatest concentration south of Connecticut Ave. along the K, L and M St. corridor into the heart of Georgetown and Foggy Bottom. There the Building Crane and the Tax Assessing Potomac River Mud Hen are an insatiable pair, and understandably so, there is no food in the burned out corridors.

Fox von Boom



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CELEBRATING OUR FOURTH YEAR

We wish to thank all the people who have helped to make the Intrigue a success in Foggy Bottom. Our neighbors, the friends from the Senate and Hill. The many stars and cast from the Kennedy Center, the Ear Column and the American Express Company for their special award.



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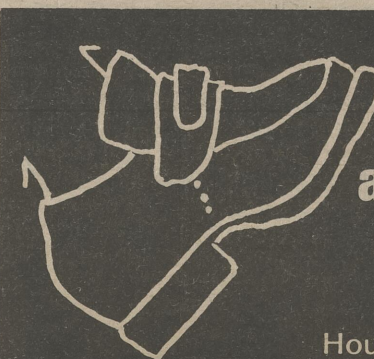
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